

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical disc includes a generic logical format having a data structure that is defined independent of the content type (i.e., the data type and medium encoding scheme) and the physical medium. A data storage medium is provided for storing data for access by a data processing system. The data storage medium includes a data structure stored in the medium for describing different data contents stored therein. The data structure includes at least one content object containing data contents, an object definition file associated with the object for describing the object, and an index file including a table of contents having a reference to the object.